

REMARKS

The Examiner has identified four species namely, Species I-IV which the Examiner contends are patentably distinct. In particular, the Examiner's position is as follows: Species I includes claims 1-7, 16-35, 45, 46 and 56; Species II includes claims 36, 37; Species III includes claims 8-15, 38-44; and Species IV includes claims 47-55.

Notwithstanding the species restriction, Applicant has amended certain claims, cancelled certain claims and added certain claims. In particular, Applicant has amended claims 1, 5-13, 18-21. Further, Applicant has added claims 108-112. Lastly, Applicant has cancelled claims 2-4, 22-56. As such the remaining claims comprise claims 1, 5-21, 108-112. Applicant submits that the changes to the claims are not the result of the species restriction; rather Applicant has undertaken these changes to the claims to more properly claim the present invention.

With respect to the species restriction, Applicant elects Species I, namely claims 1, 5-7, 16-21, 108-111. Applicant submits that claim 1 comprises a generic claim.

Applicant submits that no new matter was introduced into the application through the amendment to the claims, as well as through the addition of newly added claims 108-112. The support for such claims can clearly be found in the "Detailed Description of Preferred Embodiments of the Invention" as well as in the Figures.

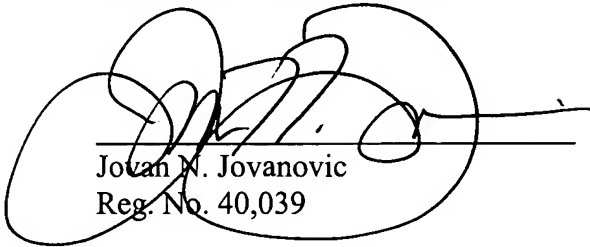
In light of the foregoing, the Application, as a whole, is in *prima facie* condition for substantive examination at the present time. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests substantive examination of the presently pending claims.

Should the Examiner have any questions regarding the foregoing, a telephone call to the undersigned at (616) 355-0400 is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: May 5, 2003



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